

## Why Environmental Education?



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ac-

Through environmental education (EE), students gain an understanding of how their individual actions affect the environment, acquire skills that they can use to weigh various sides of issues, and become better equipped to make informed decisions. EE also gives students a deeper understanding of the environment, inspiring them to take personal responsibility for its preserva-

## TEKS Correlation

The goal of this program is to expand students' awareness and knowledge of local environmental issues while also assisting teachers in addressing state academic standards.

- A "TEKS Correlation Guide" is provided with all BEE-Bins. This guide outlines the TEKS objectives and tested TEKS met with each activity.
- The correlation guide is divided into three sections; by BEE-Bin activity, by subject and by grade
- Through the BEE-Bin lessons, students will learn important concepts, meet TEKS objectives and use critical thinking skills.

## Tell me more about "BEE-Bins"

These educational kits are designed for grades K-5 and accommodate up to 32 students. They are available for use in the classroom or with a group.

Each kit contains all directions and materials necessary for each activity as well as some prizes and student worksheets. All materials will be replenished upon return. The bins may be used as stand-alone programs, or they can be incorporated into existing curricula.

BEE-Bins can be checked out for up to one week. We request bins to be picked up and returned from the City's Municipal Service Center, but if necessary, arrangements can be made to have kits dropped off and picked up as well. All BEE-Bins are subject to availability.

Please contact a City of Bryan Environmental Educator for more information and to check out your BEE-Bin today!

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**Environmental Educator**  
**City of Bryan**  
**Environmental Services**  
**(979) 209-5910**  
**mstrauss@bryantx.gov**

## Available Bins

### Recycling

Students learn the recycling **process**, where and what to recycle locally, preservation of **natural resources** and how to make their very own recycled paper!

### Composting

A traveling vermi-composting bin with real live worms is ready to make its temporary home in your classroom. Through this self enclosed **ecosystem**, students will learn worm anatomy, the benefits of composting, **the nitrogen cycle** and how to start a compost bin at home or school!

### Water Protection

Water is a valuable natural resource that needs to be protected. After reviewing the **water cycle**, create a mini-**pond** in your classroom and observe how common pollutants affect our local waterways.

### Park Habitats

Local City of Bryan parks are used to explore and understand the natural world of bird calls, animal tracks and varying **habitats**. Students use **thermometers**, **magnifiers**, and a **moisture meter** to examine and compare a square foot area in two different natural communities.

### The Life Cycle of Trees

Students use tree slices and examine tree rings to find out "**what happened before**". The **life cycle**, structures, benefits and needs of trees are also reviewed using games and poetry.

### Litter Awareness

The Wartville Wizard wants to visit your classroom to explain the negative effects of litter on a community. Afterwards, play a litter game for cool prizes!

## Supplemental Environmental Education Resources

The City of Bryan also offers many supplemental educational resources. These resources can be used alone, or in conjunction with a BEE-Bin.

### **Enviroscape Presentations:**

The Environmental Services Department conducts interactive in-class presentations on water pollution. The Enviroscape makes use of a model town to show students how our daily habits impact the environment and pollute the recycling process of water. (Grades K - 8)

### **Environmental Video Library:**

The Environmental Services Video Library contains videos in VHS and DVD format on a variety of environmental topics, such as recycling, water conservation, and storm water pollution. (Grades K - 12)

### **Service Learning Opportunities:**

The City of Bryan co-sponsors many events throughout the year in which students can conduct service learning. These events include Household Hazardous Waste Drives, the Keep Brazos Beautiful Trash-Off and Litter Index, and the Annual Planet Earth Celebration. (All Grades)

### **Environmental Jeopardy Board:**

24" x 36" laminated Jeopardy board to challenge the way students think about important issues such as recycling, energy, sustainability, transportation and pollution. (Grades 9-12)

**Find out how your students  
can “bee” in the know  
about local environmental  
issues!**

**Contact us today!**

**Mary Strauss**

**Environmental Educator**

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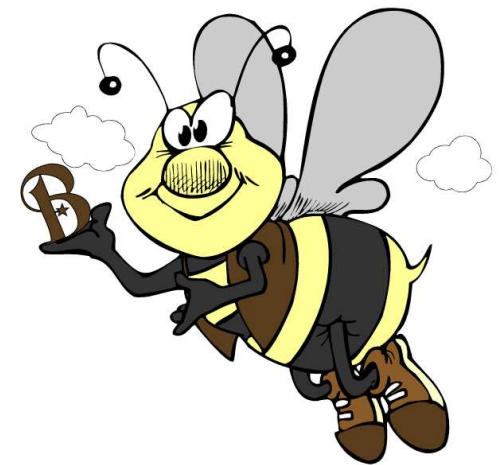
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**Bryan, TX 77805**



**Bryan Environmental  
Education Program  
Presents...**

# BEE-Bins!



**BEE-Bins are free and  
fun, hands-on  
environmental lesson  
plan kits available to  
Bryan educators!**